

Claims 1-121 (Canceled).

122. (Currently amended) A method of reversing cardiac remodeling, comprising ~~the step of~~:

delivering a material through an external tissue portion of the heart and into a region of tissue of the heart so as to displace a portion of the region of tissue inward and toward the center line of the ventricular cavity, thereby normalizing cardiac geometry.

123. (Currently amended) A method for reducing regurgitation of an atrioventricular valve of a heart, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

delivering a material through an external portion of muscle wall of the heart and into a muscle wall region of ~~a~~ the heart proximate the papillary muscle, ~~said the~~ material displacing a portion of said muscle wall region inward and toward the center line of the ventricular cavity of the heart so as to normalize papillary muscle geometry and improve leaflet coaptation.

124. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step further comprises the step of injecting the material.

125. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the muscle wall region comprises the tissue plane between the coronary sinus and mitral annulus in the heart.

126. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the muscle wall region comprises a portion of the base of the heart.

127. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the muscle wall region includes damaged tissue.

128. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step further includes the step of: imaging the muscle wall region with ultrasound.

129. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material retains a predetermined shape and volume after delivery.

130. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material comprises a nickel titanium alloy.

131. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material comprises a hydrogel that stiffens near body temperature.

132. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material is encapsulated in a structure.

133. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 132, wherein the structure is a balloon.

134. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 132, wherein the structure is a cellular matrix comprised of fibroblasts.

135. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material is engineered cellular tissue.

136. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 135, wherein the cellular tissue is delivered with a biodegradable scaffolding network.

137. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 135, wherein the cellular tissue comprises stem cells.

138. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 135, wherein the cellular tissue comprises myocytes producing dynamic contraction in temporal coordination with electrical activation of the heart.

139. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the material comprises conductive polymers, and the material displaces the portion of the muscle wall region by contracting in response to electrical triggering.

140. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step comprises an invasive cardiac procedure.

141. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step comprises a thoracoscopic procedure.

142. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, wherein the delivering step serves to reduce mitral annulus size.

143. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 122 or 123, further comprising the step of: repeating the delivering step at a different muscle wall region of the heart.